

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 FEA-01

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 IO-13 OIC-02 /139 W
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P R 081039Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1018

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5373

FOR EB/OT/TA - RAY MEYER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GATT, ETRD

SUBJECT: GATT WORKING PARTY ON EXPORT INFLATION INSURANCE

REF: GENEVA 5126

1. HARAN OF ISRAELI MISSION CONTACTED US AND GATT SECRETARIAT ABOUT HIS DESIRE TO CHAIR SUBJECT WORKING PARTY. BOTH WE AND SECRETARIAT VIEW THIS AS AN UNNECESSARY RISK IN TERMS OF PROVOKING POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS IN THE GATT, AND ACTIVITY WHICH THE GATT HAS BEEN REASONABLY SUCCESSFUL IN AVOIDING. WE INFORMALLY PROPOSED THAT SECRETARIAT CONSIDER TEESE OF AUSTRALIA, WHO WOULD BE EXCEPTIONALLY WELL QUALIFIED, BUT THE EC INFORMALLY ADVISES SECRETARIAT THAT TEESE UNACCEPTABLE TO THEM.

2. SECRETARIAT PROPOSES TAN OF SINGAPORE AS CHAIRMAN, ALTHOUGH THEY NOTE THAT TAN'S AUTHORITIES IN HIS CAPITAL HAD
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REJECTED HIS CHAIRMANSHIP OF DISC PANEL. TAN HAS

CHAired SEVERAL MINOR GATT WORKING PARTIES. ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN GETTING SINGAPORE TO JOIN THE GATT, HE IS NOT A GATT EXPERT ON THE ORDER OF TEESE. WE DO VIEW HIM AS OBJECTIVE AND FAIR, AND HE CERTAINLY POSSESSES THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS. EC HAS ALREADY INDICATED TO SECRETARIAT THAT TAN IS ACCEPTABLE TO THEM; SECRETARIAT IS PROCEEDING TO CHECK WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS AS WELL. (IT IS NOT ENTIRELY CERTAIN THAT TAN WILL BE AVAILABLE.)

3. OTHER DELEGATES WHO MIGHT BE BETTER QUALIFIED IN TERMS OF LEADERSHIP ABILITY AND/OR GATT EXPERTISE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. HOWEVER, WE MAY WISH TO HOLD SOME OF THESE IN RESERVE AS NOMINEES ON OUR PROPOSED PANEL ON MIPS AND SURETY DEPOSITS ON FRUITS AND VEGETABLES. THESE WOULD INCLUDE SUCH PEOPLE AS TOMIC OF YUGOSLAVIA, EGGERT OF FINLAND, BARTEL-ROSA OF BRAZIL, ETC. WE SUGGEST THAT U.S. BE PREPARED INDICATE THAT TAN IS ACCEPTABLE SHOULD WE HERE IN MISSION BE UNSUCCESSFUL IN LOCATING ANOTHER CANDIDATE; RECOMMEND THAT, DUE TO ABOVE MIP PALE CONSIDERATIONS, WE BE GIVEN TACTICAL FLEXIBILITY ON THE MATTER.

4. ACTION REQUIRED. WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE BY PRIORITY CABLE SO MATTER CAN BE RESOLVED IN ADVANCE OF JULY 15 GATT COUNCIL. ABRAMS

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